

# WASHINGTON.

—Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable—

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1848.

## THE SUPREME COURT.

Those, at least, who have business at the Annual Term of the Supreme Court of the United States, and indeed all who entertain a proper respect for that balance-wheel of the machinery of this Government, should bear in mind that the Term of that Court, as well as the Session of Congress, commences on Monday next. Already we hear of the arrival in this city of three of the nine members of the Court, Mr. Justice McLean, Mr. Justice Catron, and Mr. Justice Wayne. A quorum of the Court will doubtless be in attendance on the day for its assembling.

Of MEMBERS OF CONGRESS who are now in this city, ready to enter upon their public duties at the opening of Congress on Monday, we have heard of the following, (including some whose arrival has been before announced,) and there are probably many others:

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE.  
Messrs. Badger, N. C. Messrs. Dix, of New York.  
Sumner, Pa. Turley, Tenn.  
Feltch, Mi. Fitzgerald, Mi.  
Dodge, Wis. Westcott, Fla.  
Harris, Me. Cameron, Pa.

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.  
Messrs. Vinton, of Ohio. Messrs. Marsh, of Vt.  
Rockwell, Conn. Taylor, Ohio.  
Stephens, Geo. French, Ky.  
Crane, R. I. Chase, Tenn.  
Haskell, Tenn. Thurston, R. I.  
Dixon, Conn. Brown, Miss.  
Edwards, Ohio. Jones, Tenn.  
Stanton, Tenn. Bedinger, Va.  
Duer, New York. Williams, Me.  
Petitt, Ind. Cummins, Ohio.  
Levin, Pa. Wick, Ind.  
McClelland, Mi. Inge, Ala.  
Thompson, Ill. Giddings, Ohio.  
Whitcomb, Iowa. Smart, Me.  
Wentworth, Wis. Dickinson, N. York.  
White, New York. La Sere, La.

EX-GOVERNOR FITZPATRICK, of Alabama, has been appointed a United States Senator by the Governor of that State, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. LEWIS.

Major General GAINES, of the U. S. Army, is at present on a visit to this city.

The Hon. Mr. CLIFFORD, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to Mexico, arrived in this city on Friday week.

Senor DE LA ROSA, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Mexico to this country, with his suite, (seventeen in number) arrived in this city on Friday last, and took rooms at Willard's Hotel.

UNITED STATES SENATORS FROM ARKANSAS.  
We learn by the latest accounts from Arkansas that, after many ballottings for United States Senators by the Legislature of that State, SOLOMON BORLAND was elected for the unexpired term of Mr. SEVIER, and W. K. SEBASTIAN to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. ASHLEY. Both of the gentlemen thus elected held, at the last session of Congress, the same places by Executive appointment.

There was still a United States Senator to be chosen for a full term of six years from the 4th of March next, (when Mr. BORLAND's term will expire,) for which it was supposed Mr. SEVIER would be the successful candidate.

We are happy in being enabled to say that there is reason to doubt the truth of the report from the West, which will be found on the third page of this paper, of the murder and robbery of Major SINGER and his family. The event was said to have occurred previous to the 10th ultimo, but a letter from the Major has been received at St. Louis dated on the 11th.

It is with no ordinary satisfaction that we inform our readers that the quarrel between the Post Office Department and the Railroad and Steamboat Companies between this city and Richmond, and which has so much interfered with the transportation of the Southern Mails, to the great inconvenience of the Public, has at length been satisfactorily adjusted; and that the transportation of the Mails by that line, as formerly, will be resumed on Tuesday, the 4th of this month.

NORTH CAROLINA.  
The Legislature of this State began its biennial session at Raleigh (the Capital of the State) on the 20th instant. The Senate consists of fifty Whigs and fifty of the opposite party. A compromise was effected on Saturday last and CALVIN GRAVES, Esq. (Democrat) elected Speaker. By the terms of the compromise the Whigs allowed to the Democrats the Speaker, and the Democrats, as the Petersburg Intelligencer says, "agreed that the old officers should be re-elected, and that the Committee on Elections should be composed equally of members of both parties, who, in case of a tie, shall report the facts in the case of the contested election from Orange to the Senate." The contest between Messrs. WADDELL and BERRY produced the most violent and protracted struggle for the Speakership of the Senate. That body is now tied, as is also the House of Commons. So that, in the event of Mr. Wadwell's gaining the seat, the Whigs will have a majority on joint ballot."—*Rich'd. Eng.*

In the House of Representatives, also, every member was present, (there being one vacancy by reason of the resignation of a member)—being in number sixty Whigs and fifty-nine of the other party. After repeated ineffectual ballottings, ROBT. B. GILLIAM, (Whig,) of Granville county, was chosen Speaker.

IRELAND continued tranquil at the latest dates, and no further action was to be had relative to Smith O'Brien and his confederates till the 15th of November, at which date the writs of errors were made returnable.

ARMY ARRANGEMENTS.  
General WORTH has removed his family to this city, whilst he himself leaves us on Monday next to take command of the 8th and 9th military departments, as designated in the Order from the Adjutant General's Department. The General's command will embrace Texas and New Mexico.

The extensive powder mill near Xenia (Ohio) exploded last Saturday afternoon. Two men were killed, and others seriously wounded.

## RESULT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

We see it stated in the Southern papers that the official returns from Mississippi give Gen. TAYLOR 21,805 votes and Gen. CASS 22,498, being a majority for the latter of 693. Supposing this to be correct, the Roll of Electoral Votes for President and Vice President of the United States will be as follows:

For Taylor and Fillmore.	For Cass and Butler.
MASSACHUSETTS - 12	MAINE - - - - - 9
VERMONT - - - - 6	NEW HAMPSHIRE - 6
RHODE ISLAND - 4	VIRGINIA - - - 17
CONNECTICUT - 6	SOUTH CAROLINA - 9
NEW YORK - - - 36	OHIO - - - - 23
NEW JERSEY - - 7	INDIANA - - - 12
PENNSYLVANIA - 26	ILLINOIS - - - 9
DELAWARE - - - 3	MISSOURI - - - 7
MARYLAND - - - 8	MICHIGAN - - - 5
NORTH CAROLINA - 11	WISCONSIN - - 4
GEORGIA - - - 10	ALABAMA - - - 9
KENTUCKY - - - 12	MISSISSIPPI - - 6
TENNESSEE - - - 13	ARKANSAS - - - 3
LOUISIANA - - - 6	TEXAS - - - - 4
FLORIDA - - - - 3	IOWA - - - - 4
163	127

Total number of electoral votes 290; necessary to a choice 146. ZACHARY TAYLOR and MILLARD FILLMORE have, therefore, a majority in the Electoral College of thirty-six votes.

ANOTHER "CRISIS."  
The Columbia Telegraph says: "We are requested to state that Judge RICHARDSON is not a candidate for the office of Governor of the State of South Carolina, for the following reasons:

"Judge RICHARDSON is sincerely thankful to his friends for suggesting him as deserving of such an honor. But he would be ungrateful in saying, after full reflection upon the subject, that he was, at the age of seventy-one years, fit to enter upon a course of administrative duties, and possibly a national crisis—all new to him, and remote from the habits of his mind. Without assuming that he could, as he feels clear he ought not to be elected, Judge R. begs leave to refer to the example of the venerable General GARDNER, who, at the same age, and for similar reasons, declined the office when tendered to him."

OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.  
Having recently visited the Public School in the Second district of this city, and been particularly pleased with what we saw and heard, we deem it a matter of duty to indite the present paragraph. The school in question is under the superintendence of Dr. T. WATKINS, who is assisted in his arduous and responsible labors by Mr. J. THOMPSON and Mrs. RANDOLPH. The total number of pupils is 243; in the male department 135, and in the female department 108. With the present term, which commenced in September last, the new law went into operation, by which all the public schools in the city are rendered entirely free. The salary effect of this law may be seen in the greatly increased number of children who attend the school of the Second district. A similar increase has also taken place in the three remaining free schools of the city, there being taught in these, according to Dr. Watkins, about 310 children. By the above figures, it appears that the total number of children who attend our District schools, free of expense, is 553. In addition to these, it is expected that the ten primary schools, which are now being established, will give instruction to at least 500 children more, increasing the entire number to upwards of one thousand.

If all the schools in the city are as well conducted as the one in the Second district, the citizens of the metropolis have abundant reason to pride themselves upon the character and success of their system of common schools. Every attention seems to be paid to the comfort of the children, and they are treated in such a manner as to make them not only regular in their attendance, but interested in their studies. The Board of Trustees consists of twelve gentlemen who are annually elected by the city authorities, and the Mayor of the city being President of the Board, by virtue of his office. Their business is to see that the rising generation shall be educated, and they are therefore the instruments of accomplishing much good.

THE RECTOR OF TRINITY CHURCH.—Within a few weeks past the Rev. C. M. BUTLER, D.D., Rector of Trinity Church in this city, has been unanimously elected to Christ Church in Cincinnati, which position, so honorable and desirable, has been declined. We sympathize with our Cincinnati friends in their disappointment, but congratulate our own citizens of Trinity Church on their good fortune in retaining their revered Pastor among them. The Episcopal Recorder, while it announces the fact that he is to remain in Washington, expresses the hope that the great work will be accomplished which lies before him and his people, that of building a house of worship equal to the wants of the place.

## LIGHTWOOD EXPLODED, SHAVINGS OBSOLETE.

MESSRS. EDITORS: Every body has heard of the North Carolina or Virginia family who, captivated by the accounts of the fertility of the West, left their own pine forests for the valley of the Mississippi; but, to the astonishment of their former neighbors, reappeared the next year, in their ancient homestead, in utter disgust with all the fatness of Louisiana. "It was fine land," they said; "but how could a body live in a country where there was no lightwood?" And, in truth, what is the use of all the good things in the world, if one has not the means of lighting a fire?

It was seen, by the Rev. Mr. Gray's advertisement, in another column, that Mr. Cheever has bestowed upon us an invention for kindling the household flame, which renders pine-knots superfluous, and touch-wood of every other sort unfit to be touched. We have ourselves tried its virtues upon wood and Cumberland coal, and can confirm its applicability to them.

In Took's Pantheon were told That Prometheus of old Filled the flames from the wheels of the Sun. A thing which, because Of the bad patent laws, Was in those days too easily done. But the crime of the Titan, After all, was a slight one; Nay, 'tis certain by this means that he sent The crack great meteorites Relief from monogony. Of Phœbus, the fault was innocent. Where, without him, the heat Of fire, fricaceous, rose, And of every thing else that's bowtching, Pie, pastry, ragout, The baked, boiled, stew, That confers a delight on the kitchen! Then let every believer In fire thank Cheever, A second Prometheus, whose sparks, Abolishing bellows, And blowers, (their fellows,) Redeems us from cold and the dark.

A REPTILE IN THE STOMACH.—Dr. RICHARDSON, of Lowell, Maine, addresses the editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal the following note:

Hallowell, (Me.) Nov. 1, 1848.  
DEAR SIR: Permit me to make the inquiry to you whether it is possible for a reptile to live in the human stomach, and if so, how long. Could it not only live, but grow to some size there?

The reasons for making this inquiry are the following: Mrs. W., who has usually enjoyed excellent health, has, during the summer past, been unable to attend to her ordinary business. Her appetite has been capricious. She has complained of a disagreeable sensation at the pit of the stomach, sometimes amounting to pain, and frequently attended with nausea. These symptoms increased in severity until, about a fortnight since, she ejected a live snake from her stomach. It was seven inches in length, and of the common green species. It lived two days in a bottle of water, and then died. I have it now preserved in spirits. Mrs. W. thinks she remembers having swallowed some object in a glass of spring water which she drank in the dark, in May or June. She has now recovered her usual health. Yours, &c.  
M. C. RICHARDSON, M. D.

CRUONS.—We fear that our friend WINTER will make us smokers, whether or no. He has presented us with some samples of a recent importation of *Havanas*, which, from their rich fragrance, we should think could not be surpassed.

What were the great issues involved in the recent Presidential election? We answer, issues compared with which Bank, Distribution, Tariff, and Subtreasury sink into insignificance. The power claimed for the Executive to make war and levy taxes, without the aid of Congress, and the right to control the legislation of the country by means of the veto, these were the great issues which, even before the nomination of the candidates for the Presidency, agitated the public mind, and which stripped Mr. Polk of the majority in the lower House of some seventy votes, with which he began his administration, and returned a majority of Whigs to the present House. The American people were thoroughly alarmed, as well they might be, at the monstrous powers claimed and exercised by the President, and by the bold assertion of his being a component part of the Legislative Department of the Government. We now deliberately and calmly reiterate the opinion we advanced before the election, that, had these doctrines been ratified by the American people in the election of Gen. Cass, who adopted them, the whole theory of our institutions, as well as their practical working, would have been changed, and an elective—no, worst kind—of Monarchy been induced under the forms of a Constitution which was intended to establish a Representative Federal Republican form of Government.

The People, thanks be to Heaven, have risen in their strength, and scattered to the winds doctrines so fatal to their liberties. Congress has been restored to its legitimate sphere. No President will, hereafter, dare to usurp legislative functions. The Constitution has been vindicated and re-established, and the tendency to Despotism, which is inherent in ultra Democracy, checked in its insolent career. These were the principles established by the recent election. If they are Democratic, then indeed is the boast of the party organs well founded, that, though defeated as to men, their doctrines are triumphant.—*Lynchburg Virginian*.

## FROM GUADALOUPE.

We find in the Journal des Débats some interesting information of the state of affairs in the Island of Guadalupe, furnished by Capt. Pille, of the ship *Five Brothers*, who had just arrived at Havre from *Point-à-Pitre*. He reports that it was with much difficulty that he completed his cargo, as sugar was excessively scarce. The hurricane of the month of August had destroyed much, and many inhabitants had found it impossible to collect their harvest for want of laborers. The state of things was becoming insupportable, and the exactions of the new freedmen were without bounds. Even those proprietors who had entered into contracts with the colored men, signed and approved by the authority of the place, had been unable to get any work done. The negroes were either not to be found, or they demanded new conditions of their contracts. If the state of things continued, the growing crop was in danger of being entirely lost. The weeds were choking the canes, and the beasts, having no one to guard them, were devouring the cane. The only salvation of the colonists was contingent upon the question whether white labor was possible in the colonies. Should it prove so, there was hope, and not otherwise; for it would be folly to depend upon the labor of the former slaves, at any rate of compensation, unless it should be proved that it was possible to do without them. A passenger in the *Five Brothers*, a proprietor of a considerable estate, had come to France to endeavor to obtain laborers, and to propose to them a partnership. If he succeeded, his example would be followed by others.

## FROM CALIFORNIA.

We have had the pleasure of a personal interview with Lieut. LOESSER, just arrived from California, which land of gold he left on the 1st of September. He fully confirms the most glowing accounts heretofore received in the States of the richness and extent of the gold region. He says the whole truth cannot be told with any prospect of being believed; that the gold is found from the tops of the highest mountains to the bottom of the rivers. Files of the "California," brought by him, confirm it all. We have not time at this hour to extract from them, but may do so to-morrow. Flour was selling at the mines at \$65 per barrel, spades at \$14 a piece, pork \$2 per pound. Lieut. LOESSER showed us specimens of the gold; it is found, pure or mixed, from the size of wheat grains to that of the fist. All other business is neglected; wheat left standing in the field, houses and farms deserted, &c. The citizens are rejoicing in the annexation to the United States.

We learn from the California of the 14th August that the sickly season had set in at the gold region, and the treasure-hunters were leaving.

Accounts from Oregon say that the army had been increased three hundred men, and that the Indians were driven to the mountains. They were willing to make peace, but the whites would not agree unless the murderers of Dr. WHITEMAN and Family were delivered up, which was refused, on the ground that several Indians were already killed, which was sufficient satisfaction.

Gen. MASO has agreed to take gold dust in payment of duties. The Governor issued a proclamation declaring that the troops would be concentrated at the gold region, to prevent persons from seeking for the precious metal, unless those leaving San Francisco and other ports from that vicinity should make provision for the support of their families during their absence, and citizens should unite in preventing the desertion of such soldiers as intended running off to the mines.

THE WHIGS OF ST. LOUIS were to celebrate the election of Gen. TAYLOR one night last week by a superb festival to be furnished by the Whig Ladies of that city, and the proceeds to constitute a fund for the relief and assistance of the poor during the approaching winter.

The Whigs have elected Gen. HERNANDEZ MAYOR of St. Augustine, (Florida,) this being the first time that a Whig has received a majority in that city within the recollection of the "oldest inhabitant." The ball is in motion every where.

MISSIONARIES FOR CALIFORNIA.—Rev. JOHN W. DOUGLASS and the Rev. SAMUEL H. WILBY have been appointed missionaries of the American Home Mission Society for California. The latter is destined for Monterey and the former for San Francisco. At those points it is their design to establish churches at such times as may seem auspicious.

The American Baptist Home Mission Society have appointed the Rev. O. C. WHEELER, of Jersey City, as a missionary to San Francisco, in California.

The Whig celebration at Harper's Ferry on Friday evening week was imposing in its character. The Taylor men turned out in full procession, with a large number of transparencies, on which were many suitable mottoes. The display of fireworks was very good, and the brilliantly illuminated houses bespoke the heartfelt joy and gratification consequent upon the election of Gen. TAYLOR.

CHARLES WHITE, of Vassalboro', who will be 99 years old next February, went to the polls on the 7th, and voted for the Taylor and Fillmore ticket. His first vote was for George Washington. Mr. White has always been a Whig, retains his faculties physically and mentally, and takes much interest in political affairs. Mr. White was in the army of the Revolution, and is a native of Lunenburg, Massachusetts, where there are now a great number of very old people.

## SCIENTIFIC ACQUISITIONS.

### FROM THE BOSTON DAILY ADVERTISER.

EUROPEAN SCIENCE IN AMERICA.—We had the pleasure of announcing a few months since the arrival in this country of F. DE VICO, the celebrated Roman astronomer, and of other distinguished men of science among the exiles from Rome. Since that time F. de Vico has returned to Europe for scientific purposes, connected with the duties which he performed in America. His return is soon expected, however, when he will enter on the discharge of his duties at the College at Georgetown. The arrival of another gentleman of the highest reputation, from the late Jesuit College, is also to be looked for immediately at the same college. This is Dr. PIANCIANI, the oldest member of the noble family of that name, of Spoleto, in Umbria, but much more distinguished as the Professor of Chemistry in the College of the Jesuits at Rome, having renounced the honors attached to his birth that he might become a member of the Jesuit Fraternity. He has held the chair of chemistry at Rome, as our scientific readers know, with eminent ability, having distinguished himself in all the physical sciences. He is to hold the same chair at Georgetown. A number of young gentlemen, lately students at Rome, are collecting at Georgetown, and the reputation of the college there, with such new light as it will receive from de Vico, Pianciani, and other distinguished exiles from Switzerland and Rome, will court a comparison with that of any of our Protestant colleges, which we hope they may not be slow to recognise. If America, as we hope, is to be the refuge of the persecuted science of Europe, our own men of science and letters will be the first to discharge openly and courteously the hospitality of their new position.

It is said that the new Government of Rome, although it expelled the Jesuits, attempted to retain de Vico and Pianciani. They were obliged to escape from the efforts of the police, that they might meet the same fate as their brethren. Their eminence in science secured them this curious distinction.

The Observatory at Georgetown, though not of the first class, is, we believe, the oldest in this country. Mr. DE VICO will be in the immediate neighborhood, also, of the Government Observatory at Washington, the refractor in which, at least, is superior to that which he used in Rome. This Observatory is under the charge of a gentleman formerly a pupil of the Georgetown College. The eminence which the Observatory at Rome and that of Naples have enjoyed in Europe, has been attributed, in part, to the fine climate of those places, and to their southern latitude. In his new home, Mr. de Vico will have the same advantages. The latitude of Washington and Georgetown is precisely three degrees south of that of Rome, a difference just sufficient to maintain the American boast that we are a little better off than any one else in the world, while the position is still so nearly the same that the general aspect of the heavens must seem quite unchanged. In his observations here, therefore, when surrounded by Roman pupils and friends, Mr. de Vico may well think himself quite at home.

"And what was Goose Creek once to Tiber now?" It is quite curious, that in moving from one observatory to another, he passes almost exactly a quarter of the world's circumference.

The Observatory at Rome is east longitude from Greenwich (in time) 49° 54' 27". The Capitol at Washington is west from Greenwich (in time) 8° 6' 25". The Observatory at Georgetown is west from the Capitol, say 25'.

The total of all which 5h. 58' 25.7" lacks less than two minutes of a quarter of a day.

GREAT AGRICULTURAL YIELD.—Capt. NYE has raised this season, on his farm at Clinton Place, (near Newark, New Jersey,) 603 bushels of the white or Belgium carrots to the acre; an amount of produce probably never exceeded in that climate.

The United States steamer *Waterwitch* arrived at Charleston on Thursday last, from Pensacola via Key West. She is on her way to Norfolk.

## UNITED STATES STOCKS.

The New York "Journal of Commerce" of Thursday says: "There is a great demand from Europe for the new United States loan, besides what Mr. CONRAD has disposed of during his visit to London. The price has been advancing ever since his return, and yesterday it brought at the stock board 107½, and afterwards in the street 108.

"A large part of the transactions in these securities are done in the street, and consequently do not appear in our stock reports. It is difficult, even at 108, to obtain the amount which purchasers want. Some of our own citizens like it better for permanent investment the higher it sells; and some who are large holders on speculation still keep out of market, in expectation of a further advance. The other standard dividend-paying stocks have also been for some time creeping upwards, though with less energy, as there is no especial foreign demand for them. New York State 7's, due in 1860, are however, so much wanted for banking purposes under our present law, that they are more difficult to be obtained than any other; and they, too, sold a few days ago at 108."

ARKANSAS.—The General Assembly of Arkansas commenced its session on the 6th ultimo, at Little Rock. Governor DREW's message was delivered on the 7th ultimo. It contains much valuable information relative to the present position of the State, besides many suggestions in reference to its future policy. The Governor estimates that the population of the State will reach 300,000 when the federal census shall be taken in the year 1850, which will ensure, after that period, for Arkansas three in place of one member in the representative branch of Congress. He recommends legislative measures to facilitate the progress of education in the State, and tenders his cordial co-operation in every measure calculated to aid in the accomplishment of this important object. The financial condition of the State is represented as satisfactory. The revenue law of last session has realized all the favorable results anticipated, in re-establishing the credit of the State. The Auditor's report shows that on the 10th December there will be a surplus revenue of \$17,349.25. The estimated surplus of receipts over expenditures for 1849 and 1850 is \$23,947.12.

LYNE STARLING, Esq., one of the original proprietors of the soil on which the city of Columbus is located, and among its earliest inhabitants, expired the evening of the 21st instant, after a protracted disease. He was one of the most wealthy men of the State, and was distinguished for his private charities and public munificence. The Medical College in this city, which bears his name, and which will (in default of his leaving any property to do so) transmit that name to future generations, was endowed by his liberality. He was about 70 years of age. Mr. Starling was extensively known, and in all his business relations sustained the character of a man of irreproachable integrity.—*Columbus O. Journal*.

QUANTITY OF DIFFERENT GRAINS PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES.—The following is the amount of the different kinds of grain produced in the United States in 1847, according to the estimate contained in the table preceding the agricultural report of the Patent Office, viz:

	Bushels.
Indian corn or maize	599,350,000
Wheat	114,245,500
Rye	29,222,700
Barley	11,674,300
Total	694,491,700
Grain not used for breadstuffs	167,667,000
Barley	5,649,930
Total	173,316,930
Other articles of food.	
Potatoes	100,950,000
Beans	30,000,000
Rice, lbs.	103,640,590
Estimated population, 20,746,400.	
(Patent Office Report for 1847.)	

PRESERVATION OF WOOD FROM FIRE.—A series of experiments has been lately made in London, before the Lords of the Admiralty, to test the efficacy of Messrs. PAYNE's method of preparing wood in such a manner as to render it perfectly non-inflammable, though exposed to the heat of flames or burning masses of wood and coal. The experiments were highly satisfactory. The method consists in impregnating the wood with sulphate of iron and with alum, decomposed by muriatic acid. Wood imbued with sulphate of iron, decomposed by muriatic acid, is also protected from dry rot.

## RECOGNITION OF THE LIBERIAN REPUBLIC.

Our readers have been informed of the complete success that has attended the mission of President ROBERTS to the Courts of England and France, and the Governments of those countries having readily consented to recognise the African Republic. More particular information on the subject is given in the following letters, copied from the Colonization Herald:

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 1, 1848.  
MY DEAR FRIEND: You cannot think how pleased I am to be able to tell you that President Roberts is getting on perfectly well, and "the new Republic" is exciting among the friends of the negro wonderful attention, and even the Anti-Slavery Society is losing its prejudices, and beginning to regard this African nation as a people. The civil and moral friendly manner in which Mr. Roberts has been received by Lord Palmerston, by M. de Beaumont, (the French Minister,) Dr. Hodgkin, Samuel Gurney, and others of lesser note, has given him a currency and a degree of favor with every one that will enable him to do all that he wishes, and secure the recognition of his country, under the influence of Mr. J. C. Calhoun, will be lag last in the performance of this indispensable and most important duty. We have just had the most gratifying accounts from Brussels, where the President and his two ladies went with the English deputation (170 gentlemen and 60 ladies) to represent this nation in the Peace Congress lately held at that city. Mr. George Thompson, of Philadelphia, and I, were instrumental in procuring him an invitation, and making him known to Rev. Mr. Spencer and other leaders of this body of philanthropists.

These gentlemen have returned, and express the greatest respect and admiration for our President; his cleverness, good sense, judgment, and most respectable manners, in short, this whole manner of appearance, together with the partly important cause he has under his charge wherever he goes. These gentlemen, who have returned from Brussels, say that by all odds the President made the best speech that was made in the Congress. His excellent good sense, judgment, appropriateness, manner, and the *tout ensemble*, made it decidedly the speech of the Congress, although there were two hundred Englishmen and a great many French, German, Belgian, Dutch, and other delegates present.

OCTOBER 12, 1848.—President Roberts has returned from Paris, where he effected with the French Government all he desired—the full and complete acknowledgment of the independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Liberia. This act was done by the French Government in the most complimentary and liberal manner, and orders have been given that President Roberts's disposal two or three ships of war, whenever he wants to go upon an expedition to put down baronages, and break up slave trading parties, and otherwise promote the interests of humanity upon the coast of Africa. It is truly wonderful how successful Mr. Roberts has been. The most skillful diplomatist would have considered himself fortunate, under ordinary circumstances, in securing for his country, in a few months what Mr. Roberts has accomplished in as many days. He says Mr. George W. Lafayette, son of the old General, was most indefatigable and incessant in his efforts to serve him; and it is mainly owing to him that he succeeded so fully and so early. Ever affectionately yours, GERARD RALSTON.

To ELIOTT CRESSON, Esq.

OCTOBER 26, 1848.  
MY DEAR FRIEND: I am very happy to inform you that President Roberts has procured the acknowledgment of the independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Liberia by the British Government, which has been granted in the most free, liberal, and complimentary manner. It is impossible that it should have been done in a more gracious manner, especially the French Government may have done so, inasmuch as they anticipated the British Government by a few days. But it must be acknowledged in justice to the British Government that Lord Palmerston assured Mr. Roberts, before he left here for Paris, that there would not be the slightest difficulty about recognition; that he might go over to Paris with full understanding that when he returned he would find the accomplished, signed, sealed, and delivered; in short, he might consider the thing as done. Lord Palmerston has been as good as his word. Mr. Roberts is now engaged in negotiating a treaty of commerce with this Government. He showed to Mr. George Thompson and me last night the draft of the treaty, in the handwriting of Mr. Labouchere, the President of the Board of Trade. The treaty is a most liberal one, based on perfect equality and reciprocity between the two States—Great Britain and Liberia.

Mr. Roberts thinks in a very few days more this treaty will be signed, sealed, and delivered, and then he will be ready to go back to Liberia, having succeeded entirely in the accomplishment of the objects which brought him to Europe. Lord Palmerston told him that a portion of the British squadron should be employed to assist him in putting down the accursed slave trade. I have already informed you that Gen. Cavaignac assured him that orders should be sent out to the commanders of the French squadron on the coast of Africa to aid him (President Roberts) by all possible means in suppressing the slave trade.

You will recollect that I introduced Mr. Roberts to Mr. Samuel Gurney. This gentleman has introduced him to a house that trades with Africa, which will most probably procure a cargo of merchandise suitable for the Liberia markets, and thus give to Mr. R. and his two ladies a free passage home. Thus you see Mr. Roberts is enabled to accomplish everything that is desirable. He has been eminently successful in Europe. I am mortified beyond measure that the failure of so successful a mission with the American Government, and that he was obliged to leave the United States without the acknowledgment of the Government to the independence of Liberia.

ELIOTT CRESSON, Esq.

MILITARY.—The United States transport ship *Rhode Island* arrived at New York on Wednesday next from New Orleans, having on board companies A and E, 1st, and E of 2d artillery, with the following officers and passengers: 1st Lieut. James B. Ricketts, 1st artillery, commanding; Assistant Surgeon R. E. Condit, U. S. A.; Brevet Major J. F. Reynolds, 3d artillery; 1st Lieut. A. Doubleday, 1st artillery; 2d Lieut. D. M. Belthoover, 1st artillery; 2d Lieut. O. H. Tilgham, 1st artillery; A. C. S.; Brevet 2d Lieut. J. C. Tibbald, 3d artillery; Mrs. Dr. Condit and children.

CHINESE ETIQUETTE.—The Chinese are so punctilious that their code of etiquette outdoes the most ceremonious courts in Europe. As soon as a guest alights from his sedan chair, he is met by the host, who bows his head, bends his body and his knees, joins both hands in front, and with them knocks his chest. When he wishes to be very polite, he takes his guest's hand with his and knocks it upon his chest. This mode of saluting is a most respectful one, and is as much a test as to precedence, which, after various knockings, bowings, and genuflections, terminates by the host and guest entering the house together. At the sitting apartment another ceremony takes place, equally protracted and irksome. The point to be determined is where each shall sit, and who shall be seated first. Etiquette extends even to a decision on the seat of the host, by which the rank or importance of the guest is determined. The host now motions to a large chair, and attempts to take a smaller one himself. Good breeding compels the guest, in turn, to refuse this compliment; and, after a wearying contest of politeness, the point is amicably adjusted to the satisfaction of the belligerents, either by both parties sitting down simultaneously on the same bench, or upon two different dimensions of the furniture of this country may be easily conceived, as the same routine is performed on the arrival of each guest. As soon as the guests are assembled, tea is handed round in covered cups, which are placed in silver stands in the form of a boat. These are fluted and beautifully chased. The cups on the occasion to which I refer were of that antique porcelain so exceedingly valued, which is as white as paper, and as blue as the sky; parent, and is ornamented with obscure figures, whose dark outlines are only perceptible when the vessel is filled with tea. The mode of making tea in China is similar to that in which coffee is made in Turkey. The tea is put into a cup, boiling water poured over it, and instantly covered, to prevent the escape of the aroma, with a lid, which is used as a spoon to sip the tea. They never use silver or metal in their tea-china. (Dublin University Magazine.)

"SHAKING THE COMMONWEALTH."—Carter tells a story about a constable in Pennsylvania. He had served a legal process of some sort on a particular friend of his, who, being greatly drunk at the time, rebelled against the law and its myrmidon, seizing the officer and shaking him almost to pieces. The constable, after waiting a few days for him, the officer, who was in his apologies, "You know, Jake, said he, 'I would not have served you so if I had been sober; it was all the devilish whiskey did it.' The Official, at last, mollified and calmed under Jim's expostulations, said, 'As to the shaking, said he, 'I don't bear any malice, nor valley it a cent on my own account; but as an officer, Jim, recollect whoever shakes me shakes the Commonwealth.'"

## LATEST DESPATCHES.

BALTIMORE, DECEMBER 1—5 P. M.

It is a matter of rejoicing to learn that the old mail arrangement by way of the Potomac, is about being restored. The newspaper press and the commercial community will again have justice done to them.

The steamboat line to Philadelphia will be discontinued after to-morrow until next spring. A train of cars will now leave Philadelphia at three o'clock in the afternoon, and arrive here about ten at night. The mail will thus go directly through.

Mr. John Charlotte, of Newbern, North Carolina, has sent to his friends, Messrs. Corner & Brother, of this city, thirteen sweet potatoes, raised in that vicinity, the collective weight of which is fifty-six pounds. One of them weighs eight and a half pounds. They are noble specimens, and argue well for the productive soil of the old North State.